



The Lawrence History Center presents a symposium on

The History of the “New Immigration” Into Lawrence, Massachusetts and Similar Communities



Saturday, April 5, 2014 • Everett Mills, Lawrence, Massachusetts

Sponsors

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About the Lawrence History Center

Founded in 1978 by German immigrant Eartha Dengler, the Lawrence History Center's mission is to collect, preserve, share, and interpret the history and heritage of Lawrence and its people. Now in our fourth decade, we strive to better serve a community that is rapidly changing due to immigration and changes in the local economy.

Our initial collection was started at the YWCA and consisted of documents of resident women immigrants. Thirty six years later, we are located at 6 Essex Street, Lawrence, Massachusetts in the former Essex Company complex – a site built in 1883 that includes a main office building, carpenter shop, blacksmith shop, stable, and warehouse and is on the National Register of Historic Places. Our largest single collection is the Essex Company business and planning records that meticulously document the building of the City of Lawrence starting in 1845. Other collections include over 20,000 photographs and glass plate negatives, 800 digitally mastered oral histories, mayoral papers, non-current municipal records, church records, organizational records from local businesses and agencies, and an array of family and individual records that document the ethnically diverse and intellectually challenging nature of Lawrence. We engage the community by employing these materials through physical and online exhibits, symposia, educational programs, and research services to foster understanding of the interaction of the built community and the lives of those who live and work there.



Photo by Robert Lussier

Our collections are being digitized and made available through our website, OCLC WorldCat, Digital Commonwealth, and the Digital Public Library of America (DPLA). Our online exhibition, *Bread and Roses Strike of 1912: Two Months in Lawrence, Massachusetts, that Changed Labor History* (<http://tinyurl.com/m5z9bov>), is one of seven exhibitions that were part of the DPLA April 2013 launch in Boston. Through this project and others in process, we move toward providing equal access to information in order to promote education in the broadest sense of the term.

Throughout 2012, we led a city-wide effort to commemorate the centennial anniversary of the 1912 Bread and Roses Strike. We created a bilingual exhibit that acted as a cultural event space in which over 70 events were attended by over 5,000 people across the year. A community dialogue flourished about issues that led to the strike—labor and living conditions, social justice, immigration and diversity, and the effectiveness of collective action—as current populations explored how these themes still resonate in their lives today.

The past two years have marked enormous growth for us as we move from being an organization that 'collects and preserves' stories of the city to one that animates these stories for current residents, researchers, and visitors to Lawrence through rich and varied programming, the strength of our collections and the power of the history of *an immigrant city on the rise*.

Welcome to Lawrence!

Symposium Schedule At-a-Glance

8:00 – 9:00	Registration & Continental Breakfast	Space 1A (1st floor)
9:00 – 9:15	Welcome <i>Susan Grabski, LHC Executive Director</i> <i>Professor Robert Farrant, UMass Lowell / LHC Board of Directors</i>	
9:15 – 9:45	Keynote Speaker: Brown University Professor Jose Itzigsohn <i>Changing Providence: the Dominican Experience in Providence, RI</i>	<i>(Speaker information, p. 3)</i>
10:00 – 11:15 PANEL SESSION 1		
	We, the People: Voices of the Immigrant City <i>Mark Cutler, Spanish Instructor, Phillips Academy</i>	Space 5C (5th floor, YDO 2) <i>(Session information, p. 5)</i>
	The Vital Role of Immigrant Entrepreneurs in Massachusetts <i>Denzil Mohammed, MS, Assistant Director, The Public Education Institute at The Immigrant Learning Center, Inc.</i>	Space 5A (5th floor) <i>(Session information, p. 5)</i>
	The Same or Different: Is the ‘New’ Immigration ‘New’? <i>Aviva Chomsky, Professor of History at Salem State University</i>	Space 5B (5th floor, YDO 1) <i>(Session information, p. 5)</i>
	Immigrant Communities: Teaching Their Stories <i>Celeste Bernardo, Superintendent, Lowell National Historical Park, Sheila Kirschbaum, Director, Tsongas Industrial History Center, Beth Beringer, Essex National Heritage Commission, and Maryann Zujewski, National Park Service</i>	Space 6A (6th floor) <i>(Session information, p. 5)</i>
	The Chinese Immigration Experience: Local History <i>Professor Shehong Chen, UMass Lowell, and students William McAllister and Fabiane Kelley</i>	Space 1B (1st floor Everett Mill offices) <i>(Session information, p. 5)</i>
	Youth View Lawrence <i>Notre Dame Cristo Rey High School students Alexandra M. DiNatale, Cristina Fernandez, Leslie Mercedes, Jasmin Mora, and Yeimi Soto</i>	Space 5D (5th floor) <i>(Session information, p. 6)</i>
11:30 – 12:45 PANEL SESSION 2		
	Life after ICE: New Bedford’s Central Americans and the 2007 Immigration Raid <i>Lisa Knauer, Associate Professor of Anthropology at UMass Dartmouth, Adrian Ventura, Executive Director of the Centro Comunitario de Trabajadores</i>	Space 5C (5th floor, YDO 2) <i>(Session information, p. 6)</i>
	Immigration from the Immigrants’ Perspective: Stories from Lynn, MA <i>Ed Tirrell, Director of Lynn-based Operation Bootstrap, Inc.</i>	Space 6A (6th floor) <i>(Session information, p. 6)</i>
	Collaborations and Urban Revitalization in Gateway Cities: The Working Cities Challenge Project <i>Clark University Professor Ramón Borges-Méndez, James R. Gomes, Director of Clark’s Mosakowski Institute for Public Enterprise, and Jess Andors, Director of Lawrence Community Works</i>	Space 5B (5th floor, YDO 1) <i>(Session information, p. 6)</i>

	<p>A Kaleidoscopic View of the Lawrence Immigration Experience <i>Joshua Abreu, NECC and Notre Dame Cristo Rey High School students Marianne Caceres, Sabrina Fernandez, and Anabel Depeña</i></p>	<p>Space 5A (5th floor) <i>(Session information, p. 6)</i></p>
	<p>Old and New: Immigrants Making Their Way While Holding On to Their Past <i>Jim Beauchesne, Visitor Services Supervisor, Lawrence Heritage State Park, Shaun S. Nichols, Ph.D. Candidate, Harvard University, and Jonas Stundzia, Lawrence Historical Commission</i></p>	<p>Space 1B (1st floor Everett Mill offices) <i>(Session information, p. 7)</i></p>
<p>1:00 – 1:45</p> <p>1:45 – 2:45</p>	<p>LUNCH</p> <p>ROUNDTABLE Focus on the "New" Immigration into Lawrence <i>Moderator: Professor Robert Forrant, UMass Lowell</i></p> <p><i>Dr. Llana Barber, State University of New York College at Old Westbury</i> <i>Zoila Gomez, Immigration Attorney</i> <i>Eliana Martinez, Teacher, Lawrence International High School</i> <i>Victor Martinez, Community Organizer, Lawrence CommunityWorks</i></p>	<p>Space 1A (1st floor) <i>(Session information, p. 7)</i></p>
3:00 – 4:15	PANEL SESSION 3	
	<p>Lawtown Expression <i>Movement City Youth Network</i></p>	<p>Space 6A (6th floor) <i>(Session information, p. 7)</i></p>
	<p>Resilient Minds: Stories on the Impact of Unauthorized Immigration in Massachusetts <i>Gaston Institute, University of Massachusetts Boston</i></p>	<p>Space 5A (5th floor) <i>(Session information, p. 8)</i></p>
	<p>Culture Matters: Cambodian Experiences in Lowell, MA <i>Lianna Kushi, President, Board of Directors, of the Angkor Dance Troupe</i></p>	<p>Space 5B (5th floor, YDO 1) <i>(Session information, p. 8)</i></p>
	<p>What Does Immigration History Bring to the Classroom? <i>Dan Koff, Graduate student at Harvard Graduate School of Design, Robert Michaud, Ph.D. Candidate, UMass Lowell, and Steven Thornton, The Shoeleather History Project</i></p>	<p>Space 1B (1st floor Everett Mill offices) <i>(Session information, p. 8)</i></p>
	<p>Immigrant Communities and Their Neighborhood Impacts in Historical Perspective <i>Mehmed Ali, Ph.D., University of Connecticut, Christine Lewis, writer/researcher; Linda Silka, professor in the School of Economics at the University of Maine</i></p>	<p>Space 5C (5th floor, YDO 2) <i>(Session information, p. 8)</i></p>
4:30	Film Showing and Closing Reception	
	<p>Light refreshments, film showing, and discussion with filmmaker Ben Achtenberg, <i>REFUGE: Caring for Survivors of Torture.</i></p>	<p>El Taller 275 Essex Street Lawrence <i>(Film information, p. 9)</i></p>

Keynote Speaker:



Brown University Professor Jose Itzigsohn

Changing Providence: the Dominican Experience in Providence, RI

In the last decades Providence—as Lawrence and many other cities and towns in New England—experienced a large flow of migration from the global south. Dominicans constitute one of the largest groups in this migration. This presentation focuses on the history of the contemporary Dominican migration into Providence and analyzes the ways in which Dominicans (together with other immigrant groups) changed the city. The presentation explores the ways in which Dominicans incorporate into Providence’s social, economic, and political life and the fault lines that immigrants face in this process of incorporation.

Jose Itzigsohn is Professor of Sociology at Brown University. He is the author of “Encountering American Faultlines” where he analyzes the experience of incorporation of Dominican immigrants in Providence, RI. The book studies the social mobility of first and second generation Dominicans, their ethnic and racial identities, and their participation in Providence political life. He is also the author of numerous articles on immigrant transnationalism. He is currently analyzing the position of immigrants in the American class and racial stratification system and on the forms and meanings of political participation for immigrants.

Other Attractions in the Everett Mill

<p>8:00 – 2:45</p>	<p>Photography exhibits:</p> <p><i>The work of three photographers – Tony Loreti, Mary Beth Meehan, and Mario E. Quiroz-Servellón – will be featured.</i></p>	<p>Space 1A (1st floor)</p>
<p>8:00 – 12:45</p>	<p>Immigration Storyboards</p> <p><i>Teacher Mary Guerrero and ten students in grades 3 – 5 from the Oliver Partnership School in Lawrence will present their work on the topic of immigration.</i></p>	<p>Everett Mill Lobby (1st floor)</p>
<p>10:00 – 4:30</p>	<p>The Lewis Hine Project: Stories of the Lawrence Children</p> <p><i>In this exhibit Joe Manning has pieced together the lifetimes of ten children -- subjects of 1911 Lewis Hine photographs taken in Lawrence, Massachusetts -- through detailed interviews with their extended families. He acquired many photographs and personal stories that bring Hine's 1911 subjects to life.</i></p>	<p>Lobby (5th floor)</p>
<p>10:00 – 12:45 3:00 – 4:30</p>	<p>Short Pay! All Out! The Great Lawrence Textile Strike of 1912</p> <p><i>Lawrence History Center's bilingual exhibit commemorating the centennial anniversary of the Bread and Roses Strike of 1912.</i></p> <p>Mural: Faces of Immigration (see inside back cover)</p>	<p>Space 6A (6th floor)</p>

Detailed Session Information

10:00 – 11:15 **PANEL SESSION 1**

We, the People: Voices of the Immigrant City

Mark Cutler, Spanish Instructor, Phillips Academy

Space 5C (5th floor, YDO 2)

Vibrant collaboration between youths and adults committed to community development and to the idea that no one story defines a place. Showcases the collaboration between Movement City in Lawrence and Phillips Academy in Andover, MA. Session discusses how collaboration among students and teachers from Phillips Academy and Lawrence High School developed a blog that tells stories of the new Hispanic immigration into Lawrence. Blog link: <http://nosotroselfpueblo.wordpress.com/>

The Vital Role of Immigrant Entrepreneurs in Massachusetts

Denzil Mohammed, MS, Assistant Director, The Public Education Institute at The Immigrant Learning Center, Inc.

Space 5A (5th floor)

Session discusses the role of contemporary immigrant entrepreneurs in MA and Lawrence, including an overview of the economic and social benefits immigrant businesses bring to the Commonwealth based on ILC-commissioned research studies about immigrant businesses. Findings include such benefits as revitalizing blighted neighborhoods, creating jobs, and providing a diverse array of goods and services. Immigrant business owners are part of the panel.

The Same or Different: Is the 'New' Immigration 'New'?

Aviva Chomsky, Professor of History and Coordinator of Latin American, Latino, and Caribbean Studies, Salem State University

Space 5B (5th floor, YDO 1)

Professor Chomsky compares today's immigration from Latin America to the large wave of immigration, from southern and eastern Europe in the late 19th and early 20th centuries. She considers the global, economic, legal, and racial structures that help us understand what today's immigration shares with the past, and how it differs.

Immigrant Communities: Teaching Their Stories

Celeste Bernardo, Superintendent, Lowell National Historical Park, Sheila Kirschbaum, Director, Tsongas Industrial History Center, Beth Beringer, Essex National Heritage Commission, and Maryann Zujewski, National Park Service.

Space 6A (6th floor)

Lowell's neighborhoods have attracted immigrants and refugees from different parts of the world than came to the city in the late 19th and early 20th centuries. How the Park and Tsongas Center tell Lowell's new immigrant story to adults and students is one focus of the session.

In Salem, during the summer of 2012 Essex National Heritage partnered with several organizations to engage 25 of Salem's Dominican-American youth in exploring historic and present-day connections between Salem and the Caribbean. The program and its outcomes will be discussed, with special attention to "lessons learned" and enduring impacts of the program that could be transferable to other cities.

The Chinese Immigration Experience: Local History

Professr Shehong Chen, UMass Lowell, and students William McAllister and Fabiane Kelley

Space 1B (1st floor Everett Mill offices)

This session considers Chinese immigration at the local level by reconstructing the Chinese experience in Lawrence. The first Chinese appeared in the Lawrence City Directory in 1879. Chen and McAllister's presentation begins to answer the following: Who were the Chinese immigrants who arrived in Lawrence and why did they choose this city? What economic niches did they occupy? How did mainstream society interact with them? Kelley will explore oral history as a powerful way to tell immigrant stories.

Youth View Lawrence

Space 5D (5th floor)

Notre Dame Cristo Rey High School students Alexandra M. DiNatale, Cristina Fernandez, Leslie Mercedes, Jasmin Mora, and Yeimi Soto

Cristina Fernandez, Leslie Mercedes, Jasmin Mora, and Yeimi Soto, focusing on immigration to Lawrence, will present pieces of art and research regarding changes in immigration rates, the reasons why people decide to leave their country, and the different ways the foreign born try to reach the United States. They will also present their findings from interviews they conducted with people who emigrated to the U.S. since the early 20th century.

Alexandra DiNatale will present her research on the history of graduating classes of religious high schools in the Lawrence area (e.g., where the graduates went after high school).

11:30 – 12:45 PANEL SESSION 2

Life after ICE: New Bedford's Central Americans and the 2007 Immigration Raid

Space 5C (5th floor, YDO 2)

Lisa Knauer, associate professor of anthropology at UMass Dartmouth, Adrian Ventura, executive director of the Centro Comunitario de Trabajadores

Discussion with Lisa Knauer, associate professor of anthropology at UMass Dartmouth, Adrian Ventura, executive director of the Centro Comunitario de Trabajadores, and New Bedford immigrant worker-activists. In March 2007, an Immigration and Customs Enforcement factory raid in New Bedford resulted in the detention of over 350 persons; about 100 were deported. This roundtable brings together scholarly research and first-hand perspectives exploring the raid's impact on the Central American community, focusing on the Maya K'iche' population. Over 200 of the individuals detained were Guatemalan Maya, who comprise the majority of New Bedford's Central American population.

Immigration from the Immigrants' Perspective: Stories from Lynn, MA

Space 6A (6th floor)

Discussion led by Ed Tirrell, Director of Lynn-based Operation Bootstrap, Inc., which works with adult learners from some 40 different countries. A contingent of Bootstrap students will present stories of their journeys to Lynn and the myriad challenges they face today.

**Collaborations and Urban Revitalization in Gateway Cities:
The Working Cities Challenge Project**

Space 5B (5th floor, YDO 1)

Clark University Professor Ramón Borges-Méndez, James R. Gomes, Director of Clark's Mosakowski Institute for Public Enterprise, and Jess Andors of Lawrence Community Works discuss ongoing efforts to get the Lawrence economy growing through a collaboration that now includes the Federal Reserve Bank of Boston. The session addresses three questions: What kind of research is necessary to address the needs of gateway cities? What kinds of indicators are necessary to assess the impact of collaborations on urban revitalization? How can research and indicators serve to institutionalize better policy practices?

A Kaleidoscopic View of the Lawrence Immigration Experience

Space 5A (5th floor)

Joshua Abreu discusses his mother's experiences as she left her dreams of becoming a doctor behind and began what he calls "a stubborn assimilation" in Washington Heights and then Lawrence. This is evident when you look at the unique characteristics of a culture that has stamped itself in numerous cities across the Northeast. Bodegas, barbershops, and salons, pastel color schemes often used to illustrate these shops are hints at the culture. His mother arrived in Lawrence in 1985 at the intersection of what he calls 'the American and the Dominican.'

Marianne Caceres, a Notre Dame Cristo Rey High School student arrived in the U.S. in 2001 with her mother and sister. They'd lived in the Dominican Republic and Puerto Rico before settling in Lawrence. Living in a single room at first, her mother "worked at all hours of the day at the mill and we girls were left in the care of a day-care provider." Caceres will share her family's story.

Sabrina Fernandez and Anabel Depeña, also Notre Dame Cristo Rey High School students, answer the question: "How

Did We Get Here?" With very different backgrounds, they ended up in the same city, in the same school and decided to learn how and why this happened. Fernandez's story begins in Wiesbaden, Germany, Depeña in the Dominican Republic. In their words, "We would like to share these stories with the people of Lawrence and those of other areas."

Old and New: Immigrants Making Their Way While Holding On to Their Past **Space 1B (1st floor Everett Mill offices)**

In this session presenters will discuss respectively the French-Canadian, Portuguese, and Lithuanian immigration experience in Massachusetts.

Jim Beauchesne examines the French-Canadians ethic of cultural survival, "Survivance", created after the British takeover of Canada. French-Canadian culture endured in Lawrence and elsewhere, delaying complete assimilation perhaps by a generation, and some would argue, also delaying economic progress.

Shaun S. Nichols considers why Azorean farmers migrated to the industrial cities of the Commonwealth's South Coast in the 1960s and 1970s. Why have connections between migrant communities and the Azorean islands formed in the early 20th century persisted? He suggests that enduring relationships between immigrants and their former home stemmed in part from the role that the Portuguese state assumed in intervening in the lives of emigrants. Is it possible that the enduring ethnic pride of the Portuguese people in a time rife with assimilationist pressure in part stemmed from conscious efforts by the Portuguese state?

Jonas Stundzia examines the impact on Lawrence's Lithuanian community of post Second World War Lithuanian immigration and vice versa. The existing Lithuanian community became the foundation for a new immigration built upon existing networks of Lithuanian Citizens Clubs and two church parishes.

1:00 – 1:45 **LUNCH**

Space 1A (1st floor)

1:45 – 2:45 **ROUNDTABLE**
Focus on the "New" Immigration into Lawrence
Moderator: Professor Robert Forrant, UMass Lowell

This roundtable discussion will address (from personal experience and research) Lawrence's recent history, what factors have shaped it, and how it became the city it is today.

- *Dr. Llana Barber, State University of New York College at Old Westbury*
- *Zoila Gomez, Immigration Attorney*
- *Eliana Martinez, Teacher, Lawrence International High School*
- *Victor Martinez, Community Organizer, Lawrence CommunityWorks*

This session will take place immediately following lunch for all those in attendance. Discussion will be encouraged.

3:00 – 4:15 **PANEL SESSION 3**

Lawtown Expression

Space 6A (6th floor)

Movement City Youth Network - part of Lawrence CommunityWorks - spoken word team uses the art of poetry to vocalize issues, and experiences from the perspective of their roots in the 'Immigrant City'. Historical context and daily experiences/stories dot their poetry, as participants offer a perspective from the immigrants' point of view. Through the writing and sharing process, students gained insight into their own families' history (some are second-generation immigrants). Keyla Rodrigues, resident spoken word & mixed media art leader, led teens between the ages of 14 and 18 in a series of writing workshops in which they explored stories of immigration. They turned that writing into performance art.

Resilient Minds: Stories on the Impact of Unauthorized Immigration in Massachusetts

Space 5A (5th floor)

Presenters include Professor María Idalí Torres, Director, Gaston Institute and Associate Professor, Department of Anthropology; Professor Phillip Granberry, Research Associate, Gaston Institute and Lecturer, Department of Economics; Daniela Bravo, Undergraduate Research Assistant, Gaston Institute; Professor Jean Edwards, Assistant Professor, School of Nursing (all UMass Boston).

Nationally, three of four foreign-born residents are Latinos. In Massachusetts, one of three Latino residents is foreign born. Gaston Institute reports on 20 years of research on the Latino immigrant experience. Using data from a community-based survey of unauthorized immigrants, the session will compare the socio-demographic and health characteristics of Dominicans and Brazilians in the Greater Boston area, including Lawrence.

Culture Matters: Cambodian Experiences in Lowell, MA

Space 5B (5th floor, YDO 1)

Lianna Kushi, President, Board of Directors, of the Angkor Dance Troupe discusses bi-cultural identity and fragmentation associated with Cambodian youth culture in Lowell. Cambodian-American youth use cultural and social programs such as those offered by the Angkor Dance Troupe as a way to experience and understand their bicultural identities. Formed in Lowell in 1986 by Cambodian refugees who survived the Khmer Rouge Genocide the mission of the Angkor Dance Troupe is to connect communities through the preservation, education and innovation of Cambodian Performing Arts. Tim Chan Thou, who co-founded the Angkor Dance Troupe in Lowell in 1986 is also a presenter in the session.

What Does Immigration History Bring to the Classroom?"

Space 1B (1st floor Everett Mill offices)

Dan Koff explores how the dramatic collapse of a Lawrence mill 150 years ago can help students better understand today's immigrant experience. People's perceptions of immigrants in the 1850s can be seen through the primary sources available that document the collapse of the mill and the deaths of scores of immigrant workers. He has created a short documentary and is compiling classroom materials on the collapse so that teachers can explore the event and its aftermath with their students.

Rob Michaud, Andover High School teacher, is utilizing the rich history of the 102 year-old Bread and Roses Strike as a way to develop classroom materials on race and immigration that can bring the immigration story into the present day. As a high school history teacher who grew up in Lawrence, issues of immigration, class, and race are ones that he believes need to be infused into the classroom. Among other questions, how and why Lawrence and nearby Andover developed the way they did can be explored this way. According to Michaud, "The overlap in the history of these communities necessitates that these topics become focal points as my students rise to become citizens in the region."

Steve Thornton offers comparisons between the 1850s influx of Irish laborers in Hartford, Conn., with more recent immigration from Puerto Rico, the West Indies, and Eastern Europe. How groups engaged each other at work as they struggled to fight their way out of poverty is a focus of his presentation.

Immigrant Communities and Their Neighborhood Impacts in Historical Perspective

Space 5C (5th floor, YDO 2)

Mehmed Ali considers changes in Lowell's Lower Highlands neighborhood from 1950 to 2000. He discusses how immigrant groups vied for space in a neighborhood, which in 1950 was predominantly French Canadian, by the 1970s was settled by Latino families primarily from Puerto Rico, and in the 1990s attracted immigrants from Cambodia. How did these shifts affect the neighborhood?

Christine Lewis traces the history of how some of Lawrence's immigrant millworkers seized the opportunity to buy small plots of land in Methuen's Pleasant Valley, which came to be called "Little Italy on the Merrimac." New landowners kept their day jobs and city apartments and tended their gardens in their spare time. Extended families pooled their money and achieved a version of the American dream—land ownership and a secure place to call home. What's become of these 'old ways' is a focus of her presentation.

Linda Silka considers how New England has opportunities that few other regions have at their disposal: to draw on the insights and experiences of immigration history and new immigrants to strengthen and diversify the regional economy. Can Maine become a place that invites people who are unlike “traditional” Mainers in some ways and very much like traditional Mainers in other ways? How does Maine keep a focus on families, farms, and fishing while becoming a place open to new ideas and new cultures? Her presentation considers how paying attention to past immigrant experiences—largely Franco-American—is important, while recognizing that new immigrants—such as the growing Somali communities—may bring new ideas, perspectives, and experiences to the state.

4:30

Film Showing and Closing Reception

El Taller

Light refreshments, film showing, and discussion with filmmaker
Ben Achtenberg, *REFUGE: Caring for Survivors of Torture*.

275 Essex Street, Lawrence

Immigrants to the United States have no doubt always included significant numbers of men, women – and children as well – who have fled ethnically, religiously, or politically motivated persecution and violence. Though there are no reliable statistics, it’s likely that those numbers have increased in the late 20th and early 21st centuries. It has been estimated that as many as 500,000 to a million immigrants, refugees, and asylum seekers now living in the U.S. have been victims of torture. Throughout the U.S., healthcare and social service professionals, students, and concerned citizens have mobilized to respond to their needs. The new film, *REFUGE: Caring for Survivors of Torture* documents the work of five treatment programs, in four metropolitan areas – programs that offer compassionate care to survivors needing health, mental health, and social services. Through the moving stories of nine survivors (out of more than 20 interviewed) as well as the physicians, nurses, social workers, psychologists and psychiatrists who work with them, audiences get a vivid picture of this hidden crisis. Filming locations included Boston and Lowell, MA. *For more information about the film, please see page 15.*

Speakers

Joshua Abreu, a Retention Specialist at Northern Essex Community College, is working with students and helping with the development of the new Student Success Center (SSC). Born and raised in Lawrence, MA, he earned his Master's degree in Criminal Justice at the University of Massachusetts Lowell. He has worked as a Police Officer and Social Worker.

Ben Achtenberg has been making social issue documentaries for over 35 years. His films on topics including medical ethics, healthcare for the homeless, end-of-life care, and disabilities have received an Academy Award nomination, seven CINE Golden Eagles and first-place honors from the National Health and Medical Film Festival, among others. Until recently he owned and managed Fanlight Productions, a distributor of independent documentaries. Six years in the making, his latest film, *REFUGEE: Caring for Survivors of Torture*, profiles immigrant survivors and some of the programs that help them to heal. It was filmed in Massachusetts, Minnesota, Georgia, and Washington, DC.

Mehmed Ali recently returned from Iraq and Afghanistan where he oversaw development projects for the U.S. embassies there for the last five years. He previously served as the Director of the Mogan Cultural Center at Lowell National Historical Park where he worked with community members to put on community history projects, exhibits, research initiatives, and other cultural programs. Mehmed is a Past-President of the Lowell Historical Society, the Oral History Association and the New England Association of Oral History. He has his doctorate in history from the University of Connecticut.

Jessica Andors was an integral part of a team of community organizers that spearheaded Lawrence CommunityWorks' rebirth in 1999. Since then, LCW has grown into a \$2.5 million organization with over 5,000 resident and stakeholder members, and over \$50 million invested in affordable housing, family asset building, community organizing, and development. She received her Master's of City Planning degree from Massachusetts Institute of Technology and her B.A. from Amherst College. A board member of the MA Association of Community Development Corporations and Mill Cities Community Investments, a local CDFI, Jessica is a Lawrence resident and mom of 4-yr-old whirlwind Elias.

Llana Barber received her PhD in History from Boston College in 2010 with a dissertation on Lawrence's transition to a Latino-majority city. Dr. Barber is currently an Assistant Professor in the American Studies department at the State University of New York College at Old Westbury where she teaches courses in immigration and urban history. Her book manuscript on Lawrence's post-World War II history is nearing completion, tentatively titled *Latino City: Immigration and Urban Crisis in Lawrence, Massachusetts, 1945-2000*.

Jim Beauchesne is the Visitor Services Supervisor at Lawrence Heritage State Park, where he has overseen programming and interpretation since 1998. He is also a member of the Bread and Roses Heritage Committee and serves on the board of the Lawrence History Center. He did his graduate study at Northeastern University, where he earned an M.A. in Public History. His thesis was an oral history project focused on St. Anne's Parish and the French-Canadians of Lawrence. Born and raised in Lawrence, he attended the now-defunct St. Anne's parochial grammar school.

Beth Beringer has fifteen years experience as a professional educator in settings ranging from K-12 public schools (including eight years as a certified high school social studies teacher), higher education, National Parks and National Heritage Area museums and sites. In her position as Education Coordinator for the Essex National Heritage Commission, she fosters collaborative efforts in "teaching" Essex County with an inclusive, place-based service-learning framework. She focuses on creating engaging programming and training opportunities that encourage partnerships across educational sectors. Ms. Beringer has a B.A. in history, a M.A.T. and a M.Ed. in Community Engagement.

Celeste Bernardo, Superintendent of the Lowell National Historical Park, has worked for twenty-eight years for the National Park Service (NPS), inspiring individuals and communities to discover and celebrate their cultural and natural heritage. The Lowell National Historical Park, an urban-based partnership park, preserves and interprets the resources representing Lowell's role in the American Industrial Revolution while serving as a catalyst in revitalizing the city's physical, economic, and cultural environments. She previously served as Superintendent at the New Bedford Whaling National Historic Site and Deputy Superintendent at Boston National Historical Park and Boston African American National Historic Site.

Ramón Borges-Méndez, PhD was born in Puerto Rico. He holds a PhD in Urban and Regional Planning from MIT, and is an associate professor and coordinator of the graduate program in Community Development and Planning at Clark University (Worcester, Massachusetts). He has served as consultant for the Ford Foundation, The World Bank, United Nations, The

Brookings Institution, and has written about workforce development; labor markets; regional planning; and immigration. His publications have appeared in *Local Environment*, *New England Journal of Public Policy*, *Upjohn Institute Press*, *CENTRO Journal*, and other edited volumes.

Marianne Caceres is a 16 year-old junior at Notre Dame Cristo Rey High School. As a part of the corporate work study program at NDCRHS, she works at Northern Essex Community College in Haverhill, MA. Outside of school she is part of the Green Team of Groundwork Lawrence, working towards a better Lawrence. An honor student and a part of the National Honor Society, she dances for Movement City and during her free time enjoys volunteering, reading, dancing, and spending time with family and friends.

Shehong Chen, Associate Professor of History at the University of Massachusetts Lowell, published *Being Chinese, Becoming Chinese American* (2002) and her research on the Chinese experience in Lowell, MA between 1870s and 1970s appeared as an occasional paper at the University of Massachusetts Boston Institute of Asian American Studies. Her current research is focused on China's rural transformation since the 1940s and she is researching the Chinese experience in Lawrence, MA.

Aviva Chomsky is Professor of History and Coordinator of Latin American, Latino, and Caribbean Studies at Salem State University in MA. Her books include *Undocumented: How Immigration Became Illegal* (forthcoming Beacon Press, 2014), *A History of the Cuban Revolution* (2011), and *Linked Labor Histories: New England, Colombia, and the Making of a Global Working Class* (2008). She has also co-edited several anthologies including *The People Behind Colombian Coal: Mining, Multinationals and Human Rights/Bajo el manto del carbón: Pueblos y multinacionales en las minas del Cerrejón, Colombia* (2007). Aviva has been active in Latin America solidarity and immigrants' rights movements for several decades.

Mark Cutler was born in Lawrence and raised in Andover. He has an M.A. in Spanish and since 2003 has been at Phillips Academy, where he teaches Spanish and co-leads a dormitory for 36 boys. Using experiential methodologies, he promotes language and cultural competency as important life skills for the 21st century. He and his students have developed partnerships in Lawrence, exploring issues of immigration, home, and identity in collaboration with Movement City, the Lawrence History Center, and Lawrence High School classes in the production of oral history videos, which they curate at www.nosotrosetpueblo.wordpress.com.

Anabel Depeña, born in New York City, is a junior at Notre Dame Cristo Rey High School. Her parents were born in the Dominican Republic. Three years after her birth, her family moved to Lawrence. Her parents worked endless hours to provide for their two children and accomplish their goal of reaching the "American Dream". Her parents still work very hard and their "American Dream" has become Anabel's dream.

Alexandra M. DiNatale was born in Waltham, MA and has lived in Lawrence with her parents and her younger brother for about 13 years. She is mostly Chinese, Peruvian, and Italian. A junior at Notre Dame Cristo Rey High School, she hopes to attend a UMASS school to pursue a degree in business. She enjoys writing novels, playing piano, and immersing herself with animation and drawing styles from Asia.

Cristina Fernandez, born in New York City, moved to Lawrence at the age of seven. Her family is Hispanic. She has eight siblings and is a junior at Notre Dame Cristo Rey High School. Through the school's work study program she work in the Human Resources Department at Raytheon. Cristina hopes to earn a bachelors degree in business and later become an occupational therapist with a master's degree.

Sabrina Fernandez is a junior at Notre Dame Cristo Rey High School. A member of the National Honor Society and president of the junior class, she is on the cross country and softball teams. She has a loving family, who are very supportive and push her to follow her dreams. She loves helping others out, whether its school work, learning a sport, or community service.

Jim Gomes is Director of the Mosakowski Institute for Public Enterprise at Clark University. He began his career as a lawyer, but left the practice of law to become Chief of Staff to newly-elected Massachusetts Lieutenant Governor John Kerry. Jim later became the Policy Director of Mr. Kerry's successful first campaign for US Senate. He has also worked in the campaigns of other Massachusetts elected officials, including Gov. Deval Patrick and Gov. Michael Dukakis. He holds a Bachelor's Degree in Political Science from Trinity College, a Master's Degree in Public Policy from Harvard's Kennedy School of Government, and a Law Degree from Harvard Law School.

Marcia Drew Hohn, EdD in Human and Organization Systems, is Director of the Public Institute for The Immigrant Learning Center, Inc. in Malden, MA. In this role since 2003, she developed a program to raise the visibility of immigrants' economic and social contributions through 1) research about New England immigrants as entrepreneurs and workers; 2) developing online education programs for K-12 educators and for immigrant-serving practitioners; and 3) initiating a research website for comprehensive information about immigrants. With a specialty in immigrant entrepreneurship, Marcia has made many presentations and published articles that describe the positive impact of immigrants.

Jose Itzigsohn is Professor of Sociology at Brown University. He is the author of *Encountering American Faultlines* where he analyzes the experience of incorporation of Dominican immigrants in Providence, RI. The book studies the social mobility of first and second generation Dominicans, their ethnic and racial identities, and their participation in Providence political life. He is also the author of numerous articles on immigrant transnationalism. He is currently analyzing the position of immigrants in the American class and racial stratification system and on the forms and meanings of political participation for immigrants.

Fabiane Kelley is an immigrant from Brazil who came to the United States in 2004. She is currently studying history as an undergraduate student at the University of Massachusetts Lowell Honors College.

Sheila Kirschbaum, a staff member of University of Massachusetts Lowell's Graduate School of Education at the Tsongas Industrial History Center since 1992, has served as museum teacher, curriculum developer, professional development coordinator, and, since 2011, director. A former teacher (high school and college), she oversees a partnership organization with national reach, dedicated to offering high-quality interdisciplinary programs about the Industrial Revolution, using Lowell as a case study. She is a doctoral candidate at UMass Lowell.

Lisa Maya Knauer, associate professor of anthropology at the University of Massachusetts Dartmouth, has worked closely with and written about the Central American immigrant community in New Bedford since 2007. She helped found the Centro Comunitario de Trabajadores and Oxib' B'atz', a women's handicrafts cooperative. She also does activist research in Guatemala, where she was a Fulbright scholar in 2011, focusing on community radio and indigenous resistance movements against mining and mega-projects. She is working on a book about race, gender, violence, the politics of memory and struggles for justice among the Maya in New Bedford.

Daniel Koff is a designer and socially engaged artist whose work seeks to foster collaboration and social change. He is the founder of New Relic Media, where he produced location-based documentaries and immersive learning environments (such as *The Path: Fall of the Pemberton Mill*), and designed collaborative workspaces. Currently, he is a candidate for a Master of Design Studies with a concentration in Art, Design, and the Public Domain at the Harvard Graduate School of Design.

Lianna Kushi is currently the President of the Board of Directors for the Angkor Dance Troupe. She manages at start-up accelerator for businesses and non-profits at the Merrimack Valley Sandbox. Lianna has worked at the Weatherhead Center for International Affairs at Harvard University. She's a published Japanese language translator of the Zainichi Korean poet Kyong-Mi Park. Lianna received her B.A. from Smith College and her M.A. in the Economic and Social Development of Regions from the University of Massachusetts Lowell.

Christine Lewis writes about life north of Boston for Merrimack Valley Magazine using research skills polished during her earlier career working in various business libraries. She is alternately passionate about the unique boxing history of the Merrimack Valley and the unusual regional cuisine, reaching far back into the local archives to provide her original perspective on why things are the way they are now. Her most recent research led her to the small day farms of Pleasant Valley, Methuen, MA, and the central role they played in the lives of early Valley immigrant families.

Tony Loreti earned a BS in Filmmaking from Boston University and an MFA in Photography from the Massachusetts College of Art. He teaches photography at the Cambridge School of Weston, and works as a freelance photographer for Boston-area institutions and publications. He began an extended series of working portraits in the 1990's, taking pictures in places such as restaurants, factories, and food processing plants, to recognize people who are generally unsung in our society. "Working Portraits" was chosen Best in Show in Boston's Photographic Resource Center 2012 Juried Exhibition. The juror, Alison Nordstrom, is curator of photographs at the George Eastman House and editor of a recently published Lewis Hine monograph.

Mary Beth Meehan is a New England-based photographer and educator who is committed to meaningful, in-depth coverage of her own communities. Her work has appeared in *The New York Times*, *The Washington Post*, *The Boston Globe*, she has

exhibited her photographs nationally and internationally, and has lectured nationwide on the subject of long-term, community-based documentary projects. Her honors include awards from Pictures of the Year International and the National Conference for Community and Justice. She was nominated twice for the Pulitzer Prize. Mary Beth Meehan earned a degree in English from Amherst College and a Master of Arts in photojournalism from the University of Missouri.

Leslie Mercedes is a junior at Notre Dame Cristo Rey High School. Born and raised in Lawrence, her parents emigrated from the Dominican Republic to Lawrence for a better future for their children. She aspires to own a computer company and travel around the world, but for now she's focusing on her studies and having fun with her singing.

Robert Michaud, a native of South Lawrence, holds an M.A. in History from Merrimack College, an M.Ed. in secondary education from Salem State University and is currently a doctoral candidate in the Educational Leadership program at UMass Lowell. His research interests include teachers' professional development, teacher collaboration, and data teams. He is a National Board Certified teacher at Andover High School, teaching World Civilizations and Advanced Placement US History.

Denzil Mohammed, MS, assistant director of the Public Education Institute at The Immigrant Learning Center, Inc. in Malden, MA, has since 2011 helped expand and promote the Institute's widening scope of research, public education, and online learning with an emphasis on providing a platform for immigrant entrepreneurs to tell their stories. A former journalist in his home country of Trinidad and Tobago and communications specialist at the Consulate of Switzerland, he is interested in minority issues and utilizes his global communications background to promote understanding across borders and differences.

Jasmin Mora, a junior at Notre Dame Cristo Rey High School, was born and raised in Lawrence. Her family is from the Dominican Republic. They came to the U.S. with the common dream of having a better life. This dream was their motivation to pursue what they believed in. She finds the immigration experience interesting because she's witnessed her family go through it.

Shaun S. Nichols is a fourth-year Ph.D. Candidate in history at Harvard University. He spent most of his youth in the New Bedford-Fall River area before moving to Washington State, where he received his B.A. from Western Washington University in 2010. His research interests center on the global history of labor, capital, and immigration, and he is currently working on a dissertation entitled "Crisis Capital: The Making and Un-Making of Industrial Massachusetts, 1873-Present," which traces the industrialization and de-industrialization of Massachusetts through an analysis of the changing geographies and shifting power relations of mobile capital, migrant labor, and the state apparatus.

Mario E. Quiroz-Servellón is a freelance documentary photographer specializing on immigration issues in the United States and Central America. He was born in San Salvador, El Salvador. Mario Quiroz lives in Cambridge, MA.

Linda Silka, a professor in the School of Economics, directs the University of Maine's Margaret Chase Smith Policy Center. Prior to moving to the University of Maine, Dr. Silka taught for three decades at UMass Lowell where she directed the Center for Family, Work, and Community. A social and community psychologist by training, her work has focused on building community-university partnerships including the Southeast Asian Environmental Justice Partnership and the Center for Immigrant and Refugee Community Leadership and Empowerment. Silka has written extensively on the challenges and opportunities of building research partnerships with diverse groups and has consulted internationally on how to build community-university partnerships.

Yeimi Soto, a junior at Notre Dame Cristo Rey High School, comes from a Dominican family and has two older brothers who live in the United States with the Dominican expectation of being 'Men'. Her parents are immigrants from the Dominican Republic; she is the only child born in the U.S. but this would have never happened if not for the hard work and dedication of her parents.

Jonas A. Stundzia was born in Lawrence, Ma and is a graduate of the University of St. John's in the Lateran and St. Casimir's Lithuanian College, both in Rome, Italy. He completed linguistic courses at Vilnius University in Soviet occupied Lithuania. Jonas served on the first executive board of the Immigrant City Archives/ Lawrence History Center and for the past 20 years on Lawrence's Historical Commission, where he is presently chairperson. Active in the Lithuanian American community, he is a board member for the Lithuanian Catholic Academy of Science and ALKA Museum/Archives in Ct. and is the commissioner for the archives of the Lithuanian Alliance in America.

Steve Thornton is a retired organizer with healthcare workers District 1199/SEIU, Steve has spent his life as an activist and union leader. In Hartford he worked as a housing, tenant, and homeless rights activist. A founder of the successful third party People For Change, he also worked as an organizer with the International Ladies Garment Workers Union (now UNITE HERE). He has trained over 2,000 healthcare workers as rank and file leaders and hundreds of activists in nonviolent direct action. Steve maintains the website *The Shoeleather History Project* (www.shoeleatherhistoryproject.com) and just published *A Shoeleather History of the Wobblies: Stories of the Industrial Workers of the World in Connecticut*.

Tim Chan Thou learned Cambodian folk dance and became certified as a folk dance instructor in a refugee camp along the Thai-Cambodian border. He was 21 when he arrived at Khao-I-Dang, traumatized by his wartime experiences in Khmer Rouge-controlled work camps and by the deaths of his parents and four siblings. For Tim, teaching traditional Cambodian dance became a way to keep part of his heritage alive. He came to the U.S. in 1982 and in 1986 he co-founded the Angkor Dance Troupe in Lowell, MA. The Troupe's mission is to connect communities through the preservation, education and innovation of Cambodian Performing Arts.

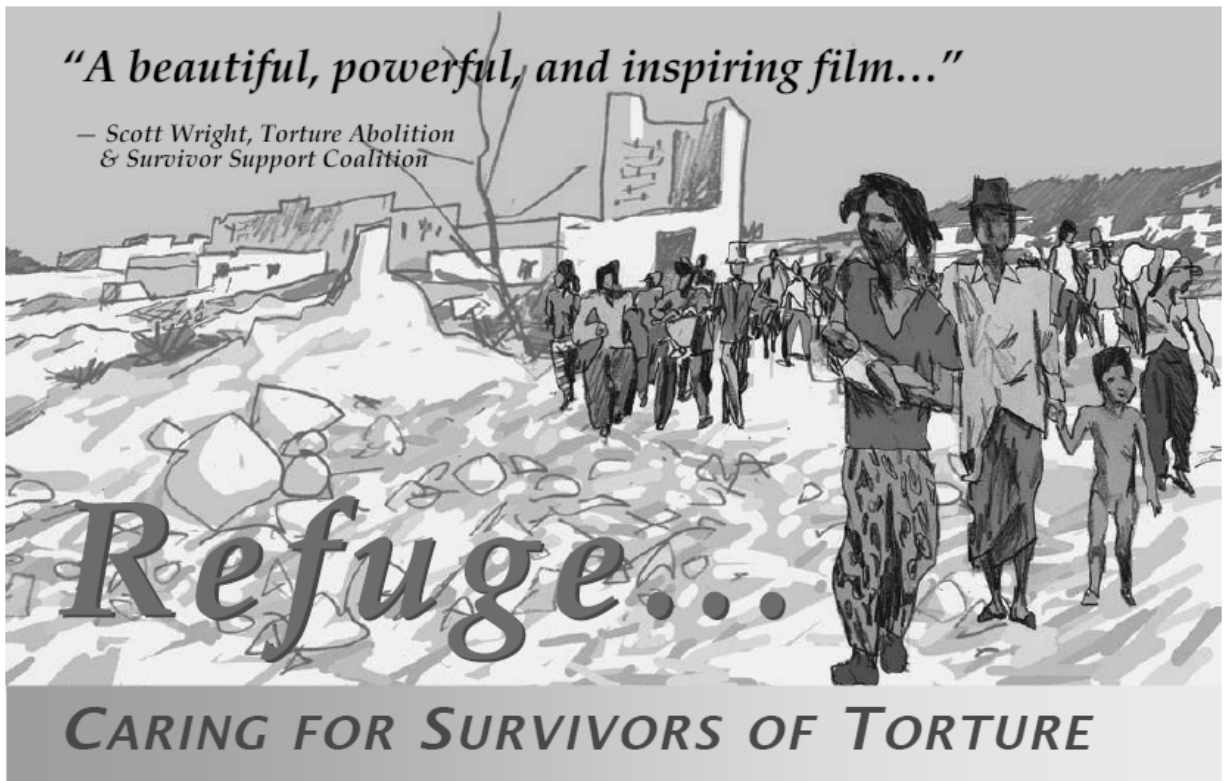
Edward Tirrell is in his third year as Executive Director at Operation Bootstrap in Lynn, MA, one of the state's largest adult education centers. It provides classes in English, adult basic education, college and career readiness, and U.S. Citizenship to a group of 400 adult learners, two thirds of whom are English Language Learners. For the previous 20 years, Edward worked as a consultant for a number of state agencies and a variety of nonprofit organizations – where he worked on issues of social and economic justice such as affordable housing, homeless, access to education and training, transportation, and workforce development. Prior to this, Edward was the founding Executive Director of three community development corporations.

Adrian Ventura is Executive Director and co-founder of the Centro Comunitario de Trabajadores, an immigrant workers' rights organization in New Bedford. Originally from the town of Chinique, department of El Quiché, Guatemala, his commitment to social justice began when his father helped found an indigenous rights organization that was forced underground by military repression. He later worked with the Recuperation of History Memory project directed by Msgr. Juan Gerardi and has been a tireless advocate for workers, immigrants' and indigenous rights since settling in the U.S. over a decade ago. The Guatemalan Human Rights Commission honored him with its "Voiceless Speak" award in 2011.

Maryann Zujewski is an Education Specialist with the National Park Service at two national parks in Massachusetts, Salem Maritime and Saugus Iron Works National Historic Sites. She has over 20 years experience as a professional educator in the National Park Service in settings ranging from museums, historic sites, K-12 public and private schools, institutions of higher learning, and the outdoors. Ms. Zujewski's professional focus is on using the educational approach of place-based service learning. She develops and leads curriculum-based education programs, collaborates on the design and delivery of teacher professional development and helps build and advance effective community-based partnerships.

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More than a million refugees, asylum seekers, and other immigrants to the United States have been victims of politically motivated torture. They come here from all parts of the world — some legally, some undocumented, some with families and some very much alone. They live in major American cities and in small towns. Some survivors bear visible scars, but many more have been wounded in ways that remain hidden.

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For More Information Contact:

Ben Achtenberg / The Refuge Media Project
47 Halifax Street, Jamaica Plain, MA 02130
ben@refugemediaproject.org

"Beautifully highlights and humanizes the issues faced by torture survivors and those treating them."

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A new website for this film is under development. Email us for information.
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"Faces of Immigration" was created by students in the Humanities and Leadership Development High School, Lawrence with the guidance of teacher Eric Allshouse. Students created the mural for the Lawrence History Center's exhibit, *Short pay! All out! The Great Lawrence Textile Strike of 1912*, to commemorate the centennial of the Bread & Roses Strike.



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For more information including the students' statement, please visit:
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